



Sacred Heart of Jesus Church

215 Lackawanna Avenue, Dupont, PA 18641

Phone 570-654-3713 • E-mail shojesuschurch@gmail.com
www.sacredheartdupont.com

Weekend Masses Saturday Vigil 4 PM • Sunday 10:30 AM
Holy Day Masses Vigil 4 PM • 7 AM (day of)

Weekday Masses 7:30 AM • Monday, Wednesday, Friday
Confessions are heard on Saturdays at 3:00 PM
Parish Office hours Monday and Wednesday,
8:30 AM to 2:30 PM; Friday, 8:30 AM to 11:30 AM



Saint Mary Church

(Queen of the Apostles Parish)

715 Hawthorne Street, Avoca, PA 18641

Phone 570-457-3412 • E-mail stmaryavoca@gmail.com
www.stmaryavoca.com

Weekend Masses Saturday Vigil 5:30 PM • Sunday 8:00 AM
Holy Day Masses 5:30 PM

Weekday Masses 9:00 AM, Tuesday and Thursday
Parish Office hours Monday, 8:30 AM to 12:30 PM,
Tuesday, 9:30 AM to 1:30 PM, Thursday, 9:30 AM to 1:30 PM

Rev. Father Thomas J. Petro, J.V., J.C.L., KCHS, Pastor

Rev. Father Michael B. Wurtz, CSC, S.L.D., Supply Priest

✠ **Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time** ♦ **September 20, 2026** ✠

Praised be Jesus Christ! Now and forever. Amen.

CCD Registration for both our parishes began August 15. CCD registration forms will be available in the narthex of both our churches as well as on the websites of our parishes. After filling out the form for each child you may deposit it in the weekend collection basket or mail it to the parish office. Please include the required fee and a copy of your child's baptismal certificate (if they are a new student and were not baptized in our churches). *All school-aged children (both public and homeschoolers) who do not attend Catholic schools in grades 1 to 8 are required to attend CCD classes.* Please contact either DRE with questions: Nancy Beccaloni (SH) at sacredheartccd@comcast.net or Deborah Yuschovitz (SM) at 457-1284. Catechetical Sunday will be celebrated at SH on September 20, at the 10:30 am Mass. Our first day of CCD is Sunday, September 27.

Catechetical Sunday is celebrated by the Church this year on September 20. The 2026 Catechetical Sunday theme is *"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me ... to bring Good News to the poor"* (Lk 4:18). On this day, catechists are formally commissioned for service to the parish. Catechetical Sunday is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the role that each baptized person plays in handing on the Faith and being a witness to the Gospel. Fr. Petro will bestow a "Back to School Blessing" upon our students and teachers during the 10:30 a.m. Mass. Teachers from both our parishes will come forward to the sanctuary for the blessing at the end of the homily. We are most grateful to our catechists for sharing their gift of Faith with our youngest parishioners!

79th Annual Polish Picnic Report: The gross profit for this year's picnic (i.e., before the bills are paid) amounted to \$33,409.95. Our picnic expenses totaled \$6,689.26. The net profit (after all the bills have been paid) amounted to \$26,720.69. *Thank you, volunteers!*

Last Sunday, Estelle Elizabeth Murphy was baptized in our church (SH). Please pray for her and her family as they grow in God's wisdom and grace.

For the month of October, our parishes along with parishes around the country conduct the "October count," a measure of attendance at Sunday Mass. The measure has been taken for many centuries, and in some European dioceses it is possible to measure the level of engagement in worship by the population over the course of many centuries. The October count has proven especially critical in the life of our Church as bishops use the figures to measure the vitality of parish life, to sketch parish boundaries, and even to decide when to close, merge, or form new parishes. The ushers are asked to count at all Masses.

The School Support envelope can be found in this month's envelope pack (SH). Your school support contributions help defray expenses incurred by our CCD program through the academic year.

The St. Vincent de Paul Society: this parish account is used solely to support the charitable work of our parishes. An annual envelope appears in your packets, around the September 27 feast day of St. Vincent de Paul, which you may use to make a direct donation to support the charitable needs of our local parishioners.

New parishioners: Please welcome to Queen of the Apostles Parish the Jessica Yuschovitz family of Pittston.

We are happy to welcome Paulina Suchecki as a new youth altar server. If you, too, are interested in serving your parish as a lector, altar server, or extraordinary minister of Holy Communion, then please speak to Fr. Petro.

The Altar & Rosary Society held its election of officers during the September meeting. Please pray for their newly elected leadership team as they begin their terms. The newly elected officers are President and Treasurer, Jane Maxwell, Vice President, Carol Trzcinski, and Secretary, Nancy Adomiak. We look forward to a wonderful year ahead.

The Altar & Rosary Society invites all women to their annual Harvest Fest on Sunday, October 11, at 2:00 pm in the QAP Parish Hall. The society is seeking hostesses to sponsor and decorate a themed table, invite guests and provide a dessert for their specific table. Tickets to attend the event are \$10.00 per person and includes lunch. All proceeds directly fund the Marian Award scholarships, which support graduating seniors from our parish as they further their education. Anyone interested in sponsoring a table, or in need of more information, please contact Nancy Adomiak 954-0817, Carol Wood 947-5159, or Carol Trzcinski 650-7300.

A Ziti Pasta Dinner will be held in the SH Church Hall on Saturday, October 17, 3 to 7 pm. The cost is \$12 per dinner, and includes ziti with red sauce, meatballs, bread & cake. Meals are takeout only. Tickets will be sold after weekend Masses or can be purchased by contacting any member of our Holy Name Society.

The 2026-27 Catholic Ministries Appeal has begun. Commitment cards for the Appeal have been mailed and will be in pews this weekend. Parishioners are asked to consider what they can contribute to the Appeal. The Catholic Ministries Appeal benefits thousands of people throughout our diocese and beyond through good works funded by the Appeal. As parish support is critical to the success of the Appeal, our participation is key. Gifts of all sizes are welcome. Thank you to those who have provided their generous financial support for this year's Appeal so far.

SH Goal: \$33,302.00 - Total Committed: \$5,210.00

SM Goal: \$35,115.00 - Total Committed: \$4,148.00

The Catholic Light updated its subscription record database. Any person who donates at least \$10 to the Diocesan Annual Appeal automatically receives a complimentary copy of The Catholic Light newspaper for the following year. Gifts to the Catholic Ministries Appeal will soon be requested of our parishioners as we begin again the process of conducting the Appeal throughout the diocese. Please consider giving at least \$10 which will give you an annual subscription to our diocesan monthly newspaper.

The next meeting of our combined Pastoral and Finance Councils will be on Monday, September 21 at 6 p.m. in SH church hall. All members are required to attend this very important meeting.

Children and Student Envelopes: If you would like your child to receive a boxed set of donation envelopes for 2027, please contact the parish office. Envelopes will be available in the narthex during the month of December for those who have requested them.

The parish office (SM) will be closed on Thursday, Sept. 24. The office will reopen on Monday, Sept. 28 at 8:30am.

Our parish choirs and cantors practice on Thursdays at 6:30 pm in the SH church choir loft. New members are encouraged to attend-contact Anthony George, music director, at 881-9991 or by email at TPianoman321@gmail.com if you are interested.

The Church celebrates the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi on Sunday, Oct. 4. Fr. Petro will administer a special blessing to all pets on Sunday, Oct. 4, at 9:00 a.m. in Avoca in the parking lot behind the church and at 10:00 a.m. in Dupont in the picnic grove. Parishioners and friends of our parish are invited to bring their animals to the church to pray for the intercession of the saint who loved nature and all of God’s creatures. Members of SH Holy Name Society will host a light outdoor social following the blessing in Dupont. To provide a safe environment for all who attend this event, please be sure that all pets are properly restrained. Pet treats will be gifted to cats and dogs at both blessings.

30th Anniversary of the Wyoming Valley Knights of Columbus “Tomb of Unborn” — Respect Life Sunday, October 4 at 2 pm. Prayerful commemoration at the Knights’ Tomb of the Unborn, located at the top of Mt. Olivet Cemetery in Carverton. Fr. Petro, chaplain of Greater Pittston Knights of Columbus Assembly 948 will celebrate the Order for Visiting a Cemetery, followed by the recitation of the Glorious Mysteries of the Rosary. All Knights of Columbus, our parishioners and area faithful are invited to attend.

“Cemetery Sunday” devotions will take place this year on Sunday, Nov. 1, beginning at 1pm in SH church. We will begin with the Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and the praying of the Sorrowful Mysteries of the Rosary. The names of parishioners from both our parishes who died and were buried from our churches since last year’s devotions will be read aloud. *You are invited to bring photos of your deceased loved ones and place them on the table in front of the St. Joseph side altar.* After Solemn Benediction and Reposition, a procession will form to SH cemetery while the faithful sing the Litany of the Saints. The faithful who cannot walk in the procession may drive to the cemetery. Father will then bless the cemetery and visitation of the graves by the faithful will follow. Traditional Polish, Latin and English hymns will be sung. Please join in praying for the peaceful repose of the souls of all the faithful departed.

Two Masses will be celebrated on All Souls Day, Monday, November 2, by Fr. Petro. The first at *7:30 am at Sacred Heart Cemetery Chapel, Dupont,* and the second at *12:10 pm at SS. Peter and Paul Cemetery Chapel, Moosic.* Following the noon Mass, the traditional *Order for Visiting a Cemetery will be held at St. Mary’s Cemetery in Avoca at 1:00 pm.* All are invited to attend as we remember and pray for our faithful departed.

St. Peter’s Cathedral sponsor its 5th Cathedral Cash Bingo on Sunday, September 27, at the Diocesan Pastoral Center, 330 Wyoming Avenue, Scranton. Doors open at 1 p.m. and the first game will be played at 2 p.m. Free parking is available on-street and the parking lot at the corner of Linden St. and Wyoming Ave. Handicap parking available will be available in the lot next to the Pastoral Center on Wyoming Ave. Purchase your tickets for \$25 by calling 570-344-7231 or online at www.stpeterscathedral.org..

Men’s Conference: “Just be Catholic,” Saturday, October 10 at Holy Redeemer High School, Wilkes-Barre from 7:30 AM to 3 PM. Cost is \$30. Call Mike at 570-721-0872 to register.

Franciscan Afternoon Retreat: Secular Franciscans of Order of Holy Dormition Fraternity on Sunday, October 4. 1 PM to 4 PM at St. John Bosco Parish, 573 PA Route 93, Sugarloaf. Retreat Leader: Father Brian W.J. Clarke. Free and open to all. Reservations aren’t necessary but recommended. RSVP & Information: Phone: Joan Pesta at 570-926-0326 or Email at ofs.franciscan@gmail.com

Capuchin Sisters of Nazareth: A friendly Reminder that our Nazareth Group will meet on Saturday, September 26, from 11:00AM – 4:30PM. Join us as we reflect on the Holy Family and more beautiful aspects of our Faith. For more information or to RSVP by September 24, please call Sister Angela in Tunkhannock at [570-836-2737](tel:570-836-2737) or Sister Clare in Williamsport at [570-745-3334](tel:570-745-3334).

The Diocese of Scranton will host the annual Diocesan Youth Rally on Saturday, November 7 at Notre Dame Junior/Senior High School, East Stroudsburg. This event is for students in grades 7 through 12. The Rally will be from 11:45am-8pm, with check-in beginning at 11:00am. The theme for this year’s Youth Rally is *Do whatever He tells you*, taking its inspiration from John 2:5. The day will consist of prayer, music, Adoration, keynote speakers, Mass, and community. To sign up, please reach out to your parish Director of Religious Education by October 16.

The University of Scranton will host two Open House events for prospective students and their families on Sunday, Oct. 25, and Sunday, Nov. 8. At the Open House, participants can learn about undergraduate majors, meet with faculty, students, admissions, counselors and financial aid representatives. Call 1-888-SCRANTON or visit www.scranton.edu for more information.

✠ MASS INTENTIONS ✠

Monday (September 21) St. Matthew
7:30 am (SH) Tracy Belles Ornoski
by Betty Belles

Tuesday (September 22) Weekday
9:00 am (SM) Kathy Burns Alu
by Tony Alu

Wednesday (September 23) St. Pius of Pietrelcina
7:30 am (SH) Veronica Kobylus
by Lisa Ostrowski

Thursday (September 24) Weekday
9:00 am (SM) Robert & Shirley Berlew
by their family

Friday (September 25) Weekday
7:30 am (SH) Dolores Jones
by Stanley & Maureen Knick

Saturday (September 26) Vigil: 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time
4:00 pm (SH) Bernard Zielinski
by Erin & Ricky Lankowski
5:30pm (SM) Dennis Fitzgerald
by June Fitzgerald & family

Sunday (September 27) 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time
8:00 am (SM) Carol Mack
by Joan Lilli
10:30 am (SH)) Our Parishioners (*Missa pro populo*)

WEEKLY OFFERING
Last Sunday: (SH) \$5,227.24 (SM) \$ 4,118.40
Building Fund: (SH) \$255.00 (SM) \$145.00
May the Lord reward your generosity.

The sanctuary candles burn this week in memory of
Tabernacle (SH): Edward J. Romanko, *by family*
Blessed Mother (SH): In honor of: Tina Petcaugh *by Scott Hilenski*
Tabernacle (SM): Kimberly Richards, *by Jeanette Gronski*
Blessed Mother (SM): Barbara Jadus Pearce, *by her mother & family*
St. Joseph (SM): Peter Jadus, *by his wife & family*
✦
The offertory gifts (SH) of bread & wine this Sunday are donated for the intension of the Sanctity of Human Life by the Bingham and Donahue families

UPCOMING EVENTS
Sept. 21, 6pm, SM/SH Pastoral & Finance Council Meeting, SH hall
Sept. 24, 6:30pm, SM/SH Choir practice, SH choir loft
Sept. 27, First day of CCD: 9am (SM), 9:15am (SH)
Oct. 1, 6:30pm, SM/SH Choir practice, SH choir loft
Oct. 4, 9am, Pet Blessing, SM rectory backyard
Oct. 4, 10am, Pet Blessing, SH picnic grove
Oct. 11, 2pm, Harvest Festival, QAP Hall

Liturgical Volunteer Schedule
Sept 19-20
4pm: EM: C. Wesley, L: S. Bartosiewicz, Acolyte: M. Hudzinski
5:30pm: EM: C. Trzcinski, L: P. Bartnicki, Acolyte: T. Gilchrist
8am: EM: A. Jake, L: B. Jones, Acolyte: J. Dudzinski
10:30am: EM: D. Suchecki, L: G. Beccaloni, Acolyte: C. E. & J. Toalongo
Sept 26-27
4pm: EM: M. Moletsky, L: J. Klenner, Acolyte: Collins family
5:30pm: EM: P. Krisiewicz, L: J. McMahon, Acolyte: T. Roxby
8am: EM: N. Adomiak, L: J. Susko, Acolyte: T. Gilchrist
10:30am: EM: B. Jones, L: M. Ferretti, Acolyte: G. Donahue, A., J., & N. Rupprecht

The Genesis Mission: Taking the Next Step in Faith - Are you looking to deepen your relationship with Jesus and learn how to share your faith naturally in everyday life? Supported by a recent diocesan ministry grant, our parish is launching new Genesis Mission small groups this Fall! This 7-week journey is open to all parishioners. Groups are forming now! To register, contact Regina Wright at (570) 207-2213 x 1135.

Faith and Family Night with the WB/S Penguins: Friday, Oct. 23, at the Mohegan Sun Arena. Join the Diocese of Scranton in cheering on the Penguins as they take on the Belleville Senators. Bring your family and friends as we come together as a diocesan family. Gates open at 6pm, puck drops at 7:00pm. To purchase tickets visit <https://www.gofevo.com/event/Diocesescranton5>

Drive Thru Chicken Dinner: St. Joseph’s Center, Sunday September 20th noon to 4 pm. Dinners are \$15.00 and can be ordered by going to our website www.stjosephscenter.org